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The Motorola Moto Z2 Play is a solid mid-range device that builds upon its predecessor's success, but with a $50 price increase and smaller battery, it may not be as attractive without the Moto Mod ecosystem. The phone has a thinner design, measuring in at just 1 mm less than its predecessor, giving it a better feel in-hand. Additionally, the Z2 Play features a metal back plate, which is an improvement over the fingerprint-prone glass of the original. The device also comes with a handful of new Moto Mods that are compatible with the phone as well as older models like the Moto Z Play and Moto Z Force. Motorola guarantees this compatibility for up to three years, so users don't have to worry about their older Mods becoming unusable with each new iteration. The Moto Z2 Play features a 5.5-inch AMOLED display with a resolution of 1920 x 1080, offering vibrant colors and deep blacks, as well as great viewing angles. However, the display doesn't get very bright, making it difficult to read under direct sunlight even at maximum brightness. Under the hood, the phone runs on Qualcomm's Snapdragon 626 Mobile Platform, backed by an Adreno 506 GPU and either 3 or 4 GB of RAM. The Verizon version of the device I've been using for a week is the 3 GB model, and while it's not perfect, it gets the job done most of the time. The Moto Z2 Play can be slow to render frames at times, but this isn't something you'll notice every day. It's great for browsing the web, checking emails, and scrolling through social media, but playing graphic-intensive games might cause a slight stutter. Storage-wise, you have options with either 32 or 64 GB onboard, which also dictates how much RAM you get. If storage is a concern, don't worry; expandable storage via microSD card can add up to an extra 256 GB. The Moto Z2 Play keeps things simple and isn't too flashy. It lacks IP certification for water resistance but has a nano coating that provides some protection against splashes. The audio experience leaves much to be desired with only one speaker embedded in the earpiece, making it not very loud and somewhat skewed when watching videos or playing games in landscape orientation. Getting the JBL SoundBoost Moto Mod can help improve this. The fingerprint sensor has been redesigned to make unlocking the phone more efficient and reliable, and you can use gestures on the scanner to navigate through menus, but there's a bit of a learning curve with that. Despite being thinner than its predecessor, Motorola still managed to fit in a headphone jack, though this came at the cost of reducing battery capacity from 3,510 mAh to 3,000 mAh. As a result, you won't get the same two days of battery life as before, but it's still usable. The Moto Z2 Play's battery life is quite impressive, lasting over a day and a half even under heavy usage. This phone easily surpasses the battery expectations of most current Android smartphones. Heavy users will find no difficulty getting a full day's use without needing to recharge. And when charging does become necessary, Motorola's Turbo Power charger quickly boosts the battery to 50% in just 30 minutes. One notable improvement made by Motorola in this device is in its camera capabilities. The camera now features larger pixels and an f/1.7 aperture, which should provide better image quality in low-light conditions. However, capturing photos in such situations remains a challenge due to the slow shutter speed required, leading to considerable noise. Furthermore, without optical image stabilization, captured images often lack sharpness or detail. In contrast, photos taken in good lighting conditions are significantly improved, with more accurate color reproduction and detail. Nonetheless, these photos still suffer from some issues, including a lack of sharpness and properly exposed highlights. The camera's performance, while sufficient, falls short when compared to the high-end flagships available on the market. The front-facing camera maintains its 5 MP resolution but offers an f/2.2 aperture and a front LED flash for taking selfies. While it performs decently in this capacity, the front flash can sometimes crush details in the background, suggesting that avoiding its use might be preferable. The Moto Z2 Play runs on Android 7.1.1 Nougat with minimal software tweaks from Motorola. This keeps the experience very close to vanilla Android and offers a few useful additions like double chopping for flashlight activation and wrist twisting for camera access. Battery-friendly notifications are also available, which can fade in and out to conserve battery life further. The Moto Z2 Play is a mid-range smartphone that comes with Verizon's suite of bloatware apps and pre-installed third-party apps. However, the unlocked version will be available later this summer without these added features. The phone boasts a 5.5-inch Super AMOLED display, 2.2 GHz octa-core processor, 32/64 GB storage, and a dual camera setup. It also features TurboPower charging, water resistance, and a fingerprint sensor. In terms of connectivity, the Moto Z2 Play has USB Type-C, Bluetooth 4.2 LE + EDR, Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n, and supports various frequency bands including CDMA, GSM, UMTS/HSPA+, and LTE. The phone runs on Android 7.1.1 Nougat and measures 76.2 x 156.2 x 5.99 mm with a weight of 145 g. As for pricing, the Moto Z2 Play is currently a Verizon exclusive, priced at $450. There's also an unlocked version that will be available later this summer for $500, which is a $50 hike compared to its predecessor. For those looking for a more powerful alternative, the OnePlus 5 is a great option at a similar price point. However, for those already invested in the Moto Mods ecosystem, the Z2 Play may be worth considering due to its support for these accessories. Moto Mods offer unique functionality and sleek designs, but they can be pricey. For those looking for cheaper alternatives that offer similar features, there are third-party accessories available that are compatible with all devices. Ultimately, the buying decision will likely come down to how much one needs Moto Mods. The Motorola Moto Z2 Play is a mid-range smartphone with a large Super AMOLED screen and a metal body, running on a clean Android experience. The phone's capabilities are enticing, but the price might be an issue for some users. The device has two SIM card slots and supports up to 256GB of expandable storage. It features a 5.5-inch display with a resolution of 1920x1080 pixels and is powered by a Qualcomm Snapdragon 626 processor. The phone's design, while not the most stylish, showcases Motorola's unique style and makes it easily recognizable. The Moto Z2 Play has a substantial frame around its screen and a prominently positioned camera module on the back. This design choice is somewhat outdated compared to newer trends but was necessary to accommodate the device's support for Moto Mods. The phone's build quality is solid, with a metal body that provides durability. However, some features like the fingerprint reader and capacitive keys are not ideally placed under the screen, which can affect their usability. The front of the phone is protected by Gorilla Glass 3, which can be easily smudged. Szkła na motocyklu nowej Motki to miłą odskocznią. Na plecach pojazdu znajdziesz aparat fotograficzny, logo producenta oraz piny do Moto Mods. Ciekawie rozwiązano problem anteny - otaczają oni cały tył. Jeśli nie spodoba się Ci to, możesz ukryć cały tył pod klapką Moto Style Shell (można ją znaleźć w zestawie). Pomimo założenia aparatu ciągle wystaje z powodu odchudzenia grubości obudowy do niecałych 6 mm. Motorola Moto Z2 Play została dobrze spasowana, również klawiszy głośności i wyłącznika. Elementy te mogły być odrobinę większe, ale całkiem wygodnie się z nich korzysta. Smartfon nieźle leży w dłoni, ale warto pamiętać o jego gabarytach (156 x 76 x 6.0 mm) - to spory telefon, co nie wszystkim musi odpowiadać. Moto Z2 Play posiada wygląd oraz specyfikacje przypominające model Z Play pierwszej generacji. Jednak, jego sklepu nie starczy zapas mocy do obsługi najbardziej wymagających gier na kilka lat w przód. Dlatego powinien być uwzględniony, gdy myśli się o zakupie Moto Z2 Play na dłuższy okres niż standardowe 2 lata. Czytnik linii papilarnych umieszczono pod ekranem, co jest preferowanym miejscem przez sporą część użytkowników. Jest on aktywny i telefon można odblokować po przyłożeniu palca do skanera. Działa szybko i pewnie. Moto Z2 Play oferuje Wi-Fi a/b/g/n (2,4 i 5 GHz), Bluetooth 4.2, radio FM, NFC, miracast oraz żyroskop, nie brakuje żadnego istotnego elementu. Wszystko działa po prostu dobrze. Na dodatkową pochwałę zasługuje USB typu C i to w standardzie 3.1, co wcale nie jest takie oczywiste – nawet w smartfonach flagowych. Recenzowany egzemplarz to smartfon Dual SIM standby, a szufladka jest tak zaprojektowana, by można było wykorzystywać dwie karty na raz i kartę pamięci. Jakość rozmów nie budzi żadnych zastrzeżeń. Głośnik umieszczony na górnej ramce służy także do odtwarzania multimediów, jest on w pełni zadowalający, a dobre położenie uniemożliwia jego stłumienie. Pamięć telefonu to 64 GB, jednak użytkownik dostaje do dyspozycji niecałe 51 GB. Przestrzeń tę można rozbudować poprzez kartę pamięci o maksymalnym rozmiarze 256 GB. Moto Z2 Play obsługuje akcesoria OTG. GPS korzysta z pomocy A-GPS i GLONASS, nawigacja działa bezproblemowo – sygnał łapany jest szybko i nie zauważyłem, by kiedykolwiek został utracony. This smartphone stands out from the competition. The tested model runs on pure Android 7.1.1 Nougat, with Motorola adding a few practical features to make using it easier, but these can be disabled if not needed. Notable additions include various gestures: single-button navigation – the fingerprint sensor under the screen replaces virtual Android buttons on the screen, which are disabled in this case, providing more working space; swiping left and right switches between previous and next screens; double-tapping returns to the main screen; long-pressing turns off or wakes up the screen; double-tap-and-hold activates flash; rapid registration – enabling camera mode by rotating the wrist, allowing seamless switching between primary and front cameras; one-handed mode; lifting the phone to silence it; rotating the device to toggle Do Not Disturb. Most gestures work well, except for single-button navigation. This feature worked better and was more convenient on the Moto G5 Plus, but I disabled it after a few hours on the Moto Z2 Play, switching back to on-screen buttons. Additionally, there's Moto display, which provides energy-saving notifications on an off-screen screen. This allows us to glance at the time, notifications, or battery level without needing to wake the device. A great feature is the ability to respond to SMS using Moto display – it's a really useful addition.